

Opening the Door to Research Using Confidential Census Bureau Data

For years, the U.S. Census Bureau has used the Policy on Title 13 Benefit Statements to partner with external experts for new and novel data research projects.

When we collect public or business data, we make a legally binding promise to protect their confidentiality and use the data for statistical purposes only. This policy is designed to help us keep that promise!

The list of Title 13 benefits is what we recognize as statistical uses of our data. It's important that every project explicitly state how it plans to use Title 13 data in a way that is ethical, legally permissible, and consistent with the pledges we make when we collect data from the public.

The Title 13 benefits list is very inclusive because we know the American public gets the greatest value out of our work when we allow its data to be used and reused to produce as many statistical insights as possible, especially without adding more surveys and censuses.



Simplified List of Title 13 Benefits

- **Evaluating** whether current data reflect changing social and economic situations.
- **Updating** or **creating** new data products that capture demographic, social, or economic trends.
- **Developing** new ways to use existing data to evaluate public programs and public policy.
- **Facilitating** data collection, processing, or dissemination.
- **Helping** improve the quality of data we collect or acquire.
- **Leading** to new or improved methodology to collect or tabulate data.
- **Enhancing** the data we collect, acquire, or publish.
- **Identifying** and **improving** Census Bureau programs used to collect and code data.
- **Identifying** shortcomings of current data collection programs/documenting new data needs.
- **Constructing, verifying, or improving** the Census Bureau's data collection sampling frame.
- **Preparing** population estimates and describing population characteristics.
- **Developing** methods to address census or survey nonresponse to improve estimates.
- **Developing** statistical weights for Census Bureau data collection or analysis.

For more information, view our Policy on Title 13 Benefit Statements at https://www2.census.gov/foia/ds_policies/ds002.pdf.